Submission: SR32-11

Offshore Special Regulation - 4.26.4(f)

Allowing Reefable Heavy Weather Jibs

A submission from the Royal Yachting Association (GBR)

Purpose or Objective

To allow Heavy weather jibs to have reefing points

Proposal

4.26.4 The following shall be provided:-

f) a heavy-weather jib (or heavy-weather sail in a yacht with no forestay) of area
not greater than 13.5% height of the foretriangle squared and without reef
points;

Current Position

4.26.4 The following shall be provided:-

f) a heavy-weather jib (or heavy-weather sail in a yacht with no forestay) of area not greater than 13.5% height of the foretriangle squared and without reef points;

Reason

Many class rules including Class 40s and IMOCA 60s allow reef points in heavy weather jibs. Short handed sailors are asking sailmakers to fit reefing points to heavy weather jibs. Being able to reduce the size of a heavy weather jib in strengthening wind is a good development. It requires less time on the fore deck in heavy weather than changing to a smaller sail.